

**Subpart C—Obligations Under This Part**

PROHIBITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

**§ 280.20 What must I not do in conducting Geological and Geophysical (G&G) prospecting or scientific research?**

While conducting G&G prospecting or scientific research activities under a permit or notice, you must not:

- (a) Interfere with or endanger operations under any lease, right-of-way, easement, right-of-use, notice, or permit issued or maintained under the Act;
- (b) Cause harm or damage to life (including fish and other aquatic life), property, or the marine, coastal, or human environment;
- (c) Cause harm or damage to any mineral resources (in areas leased or not leased);
- (d) Cause pollution;
- (e) Disturb archaeological resources;
- (f) Create hazardous or unsafe conditions;
- (g) Unreasonably interfere with or cause harm to other uses of the area; or
- (h) Claim any oil, gas, sulphur, or other minerals you discover while conducting operations under a permit or notice.

**§ 280.21 What must I do in conducting G&G prospecting or scientific research?**

While conducting G&G prospecting or scientific research activities under a permit or notice, you must:

- (a) Immediately report to the RD if you:
  - (1) Detect hydrocarbon or any other mineral occurrences;
  - (2) Detect environmental hazards that imminently threaten life and property; or
  - (3) Adversely affect the environment, aquatic life, archaeological resources, or other uses of the area where you are prospecting or conducting scientific research activities.
- (b) Consult and coordinate your G&G activities with other users of the area for navigation and safety purposes.
- (c) If you conduct shallow test drilling or deep stratigraphic test drilling activities, you must use the best avail-

able and safest technologies that the RD considers economically feasible.

**§ 280.22 What must I do when seeking approval for modifications?**

Before you begin modified operations, you must submit a written request describing the modifications and receive the RD's oral or written approval. If circumstances preclude a written request, you must make an oral request and follow up in writing.

**§ 280.23 How must I cooperate with inspection activities?**

- (a) You must allow our representatives to inspect your G&G prospecting or any scientific research activities that are being conducted under a permit. They will determine whether operations are adversely affecting the environment, aquatic life, archaeological resources, or other uses of the area.
- (b) MMS will reimburse you for food, quarters, and transportation that you provide for our representatives if you send in your reimbursement request to the region that issued the permit within 90 days of the inspection.

**§ 280.24 What reports must I file?**

- (a) You must submit status reports on a schedule specified in the permit and include a daily log of operations.
- (b) You must submit a final report of G&G prospecting or scientific research activities under a permit within 30 days after you complete acquisition activities under the permit. You may combine the final report with the last status report and must include each of the following:
  - (1) A description of the work performed.
  - (2) Charts, maps, plats and digital navigation data in a format specified by the RD, showing the areas and blocks in which any G&G prospecting or permitted scientific research activities were conducted. Identify the lines of geophysical traverses and their locations including a reference sufficient to identify the data produced during each activity.
  - (3) The dates on which you conducted the actual prospecting or scientific research activities.
  - (4) A summary of any: